1-1-1993 were extracted out 64,595 million tonnes. Out of this 13,626 million tonnes are considered to be exploitable by opencast mining and 17,212 million tonnes by underground

Theft in Western Coal Fields Ltd. in Maharashtra

7341. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been a large number of thefts in Western Coal Fields Ltd., in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the details of the persons involved and their modus operandi have been brought to the attention of Government; and

(c) whether it is a fact that such a complaint has been lodged with CBI and if so what is the outcome of the CBI enquiry.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) No large scale theft have been reported from Western Coafields Limited in Maharashtra. However, action taken on coal/other materials reported stolen as per details given in the table below:

Year	Total number of theft cases		No. of FIRs lodged		No, of persons arrested	
	Coal	Other materials	Coal	Other materials	Coal	Other mat?ria.s
1992-93	29	24	29	24	38	5
1993-94	14	22	14	22	15	1 4

FIRs as indicated above were lodged and all the persons involved in the various FIRs are legally proceeded against by th concerned Police Authorities.

(c) Does not arise.

Agreement Between ECL and Metchem

7342. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern Coal-fields Ltd. (ECL) has entered into an agreement with Met-Chem the US steel linked Canadian Multi-national Co.;

(b) if so, what is the total worth of the project;

(c) whether it is a fa ct that Met-chem as per the agreement is the consultant collaborator, middleman as well as the purchaser; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The expansion of Rajmahal Project from 5 million tonnes to 10. 5 million tonnes per annum has been undertaken with Canadian assistance. The contract for implementation of this project was concluded in January, 1989 between Coal India Limited and Canadian Commercial Corporation, a Canadian Government Agency. Broad scope of assistance by Canadian Commercial Corporation includes Management and Technical Services; Cost control and Project scheduling ; Construction

Management, Technical Inspection, Approval and procurement.

(b) Total sanctioned cost of the Project is Rs 966.7 crores. The Canadian assistance is Cdn. $ 166 millions. The Foreign Exchange component to the Project is covered by a concessional credit from Export Development Corporation of Canada.

(c) and (d). Met-chem has been engaged by the Canadian Commercial Corporation as executing agency for Rajmahal Open Cast Coal Mine. In the course of executing the contract, Met-chem will be supplying engineering services and procuring equipments including mining, earthmoving, communication etc. As per the Articles of agreement Canadian commercial Corporation is fully responsible for implementation of the Project.

Action Plan for development of abandoned collieries in Bihar

7343. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA Will the Minister of COAL be please to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any action plan for the development and afforestation of old and abandoned collieries in the State of Bihar; and

(b) If so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Restoration of land and implementation of environmental safeguards in old worked out mines has beeni identified as one of the thrust areas during 8th Five Year Plan period. An amount of Rs. 75 crores has been provided in the overall outlay for the 8th Five Year Plan fo rundertaking the environmental restoration and subsidence control measures in the coalfield areas including those located in Bihar. In addition a diagnostic study for dealing with coalfield fires in Hharia Coalfield in Bihar has also been taken up with the assistance of the World Bank.

Development of roads in colliery areas in Bihar

7344. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has been spent during the last three years by Government and Coal Companies for the development of roads in colliery areas of Bihar with details of each year;

(b) what was the total stretch of roads developed during the said period; and

(c) how much amount has been earmarked for the development of roads in Colliery areas of Bihar during the Eighth Plan period with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) According to information furnished by Coal India Ltd. (CIL), money spent by the coal companies in Bihar during the last three years for development of roads was as under:—

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	1768.30
1992-93	975.45
1993-94	1572.55

The above figures include the amounts disbursed by the Govt. in Ministry